

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections of the claims.

At the outset, it is noted that the Office Action states that claims 1-25 are pending. However, prior to submission of the present Amendment, the application contained 29 claims. As originally filed, the PCT application contained claims 1-25. During the international phase, the claims were amended, to include one additional claim. In a Preliminary Amendment filed January 31, 2006, with the U.S. national phase of the application, new claims 27-29 were added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to confirm that the Preliminary Amendment, containing claims 1-29, has been properly entered into the record of the present application.

Claims 13, 14, 24 and 25 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form. To remove this issue, claims 13 and 25 have been rewritten in independent form. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. In essence, the Office Action asserts that the claims do not recite a "useful, concrete and tangible result", i.e. a practical, "real world" application.

To remove the basis for the rejection, claims 1 and 15 recite that the final step of the claimed method is the performance of a cryptographic operation on data, using the stored value that was determined for the parameter e. In other words, the claims do not merely recite a mathematical algorithm as an abstract idea or concept. Rather, they recite a practical application of that algorithm to secure operations on data, which produces a tangible result. Specific examples of real-world,

cryptographic operations are described at page 2, lines 14-17 of the application, and are now set forth in new claims 30 and 31.

It is respectfully submitted that, since the claims recite a practical application of the computations described therein, they are directed to subject matter that falls within the scope of 35 U.S.C. §101. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Since all objections and rejections of record have been addressed, the application is submitted to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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